

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELFAS 00009 111443Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /070 W

-----117384 112055Z /64

R 111413Z JAN 78

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1839

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS BELFAST 9

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, UK, EI

SUBJECT: FURTHER COMMENT ON PM LYNCH AND NORTHERN IRELAND

REF: BELFAST 008

1. LOCAL PAPERS CONTINUE EDITORIALIZING ON PRIME MINISTER LYNCH'S COMMENTS ON NORTHERN IRELAND, REACTION THERETO, AND HIS REACTION TO THE REACTIONS. THE LOCAL POLITICIANS ARE SAYING LITTLE NEW BUT WILL PURSUE HMG'S POSITION AT QUESTION TIME IN THE COMMONS JANUARY 12.

2. THE "NEWS LETTER" -- IDENTIFIED WITH THE MAJORITY COMMUNITY -- SAYS IT IS "TIME FOR PLAIN SPEAKING." IT ASKS WHETHER ULSTER CANNOT GET FROM HMG "AN EXACT INDICATION OF ACTUAL POLICY," RATHER THAN LEAVING IT TO THE PM " OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY" TO DEFINE WESTMINSTER POLICY. THE "IRISH NEWS" IN CONTRAST EMPHASIZES THE REASONABLE NATURE OF MR. LYNCH'S REPLY TO HIS CRITICS, AND SAYS THAT "OUR LOCAL UNIONISTS NAUTRALLY CONTINUE TO PICK UP WHAT THEY BELIEVE ARE PROPAGANDA POINTS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE BROADCAST."

3. JUDGING FROM REMARKS BY OFFICIAL UNIONIST AND SDLP LEADERS,
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SECRETARY OF STATE MASON WILL BE ASKED SHARPLY IN THE COMMONS TO DEFINE BRITISH ATTITUDE SPECIFICALLY TOWARD POWER SHARING IN NI -- THE POINT RAISED BY THE NEWS LETTER. SDLP DEPUTY LEADER JOHN HUME SAID THE UNIONISTS WERE TRYING TO TRANSFER THE BLAME TO LYNCH FOR "THEIR USUAL UNWILLINGNESS TO REACH AGREEMENT" (I.E., ON MASON'S TALKS ABOUT INTERIM DEVOLUTION). AS THOUGH IN REPLY, OFFICIAL UNIONIST HARRY WEST RAISED THE SPECTRE OF "TOTAL

INTEGRATION" OF NI INTO THE UK AS THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO THE
POLITICAL LINE PURSUED BY THE SDLP AND LYNCH.STOUT

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 11 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: BELFAST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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SAS ID: 3795965
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TAGS: PINT, PGOV, UK, EI
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Review Markings:
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